

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action dated May 16, 2007. Reconsideration and allowance of the application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-17 are pending in the Application. Claims 10-17 are added by this amendment. Claims 1, 9 and 10 are independent claims.

The Applicant's greatly appreciate the indication that Claim 9 is allowed and that claim 2 is allowable if amended to be in independent form.

In the Office Action, claims 1, 3, 4, and 6-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,676,284 to Willson (Willson) in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0179000 to Fermgard (Fermgard). It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-17 are allowable over Willson in view of Fermgard for at least the following reasons.

It seems undisputed that Willson "lacks the teaching of the wires being protected from surroundings by a package of hot melt material." (See, Office Action, page 2, lines 22-23.)

While Fermgard shows affixing the LED with hot melt adhesive into a mounting hole (see, paragraph [0052]) it is clear that the hot melt adhesive does not protect the LED from exposure. In fact Fermgard teaches a "protective sheet of glass 26 can be mounted over the outer end 13 of the mounting part 5 ... to protect the components arranged in the mounting part 5." (See, FIG. 3 and paragraph [0053].)

It is respectfully submitted that the LED assembly of Claim 1 is not anticipated or made obvious by the teachings of Willson in view of Fermgard. For example, Willson in view of Fermgard does not disclose or suggest, an LED assembly that amongst other patentable elements, comprises (illustrative emphasis provided) "LED assembly suitable to form a string and provided with an LED mounted with a mounting on a base, which base is provided with electric connection wires wherein the LED mounting and electric contacts to the connection wires are protected from exposure to the surroundings by a package of hot melt material" as required by Claim 1. Further, it is respectfully submitted that the LED assembly of Claim 10 is not anticipated or made obvious by the teachings of Willson in view of Fermgard. For example, Willson in

view of Fermgard does not disclose or suggest, an LED assembly that amongst other patentable elements, comprises (illustrative emphasis provided) "LED assembly suitable to form a string and provided with an LED mounted with a mounting on a base, which base is provided with electric connection wires wherein the LED mounting and electric contacts to the connection wires are protected from the surroundings by a package of hot melt material that surrounds exposed portions of the electric connection wires and a portion of the LED" as required by Claim 10.

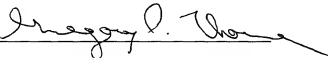
Based on the foregoing, the Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claims 1 and 10 are patentable over Willson in view of Fermgard and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited. Claims 2-8 and 11-17 respectively depend from one of Claims 1 and 10 and accordingly are allowable for at least this reason as well as for the separately patentable elements contained in each of the claims. Accordingly, separate consideration of each of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

In addition, Applicants deny any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of

argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicants reserve the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

Applicants have made a diligent and sincere effort to place this application in condition for immediate allowance and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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August 7, 2007

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